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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/563,502	06/29/2006	Manfred Flach	2003P07890WOUS	8243

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SIEMENS CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
170 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH
ISELIN, NJ 08830

EXAMINER	
MEW, KEVIN D	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2416	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/563,502	FLACH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kevin Mew	2416	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 January 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *7-12* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *7-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *05 January 2006* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *1/5/06, 10/10/06*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

1. Acknowledgement is made of the preliminary amendment filed on 1/5/2006. Claims 1-6 have been cancelled and claims 7-12 have been newly added by applicant. Claims 7-12 are currently pending.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because each of the reference numerals in Figs. 1-5 lacks a descriptive label. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In lines 21, 24, claim 7, replace the words "data package" with "data packet."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kolblin et al. (USP 6,216,172).

Regarding claim 7, Kolblin discloses a method of allocating station addresses to communication users arranged in a bus system (allocating addresses to bus subscribers, col. 2, lines 48-53col.3, lines 35-39, abstract), wherein communication on the bus system is organized in communication cycles, and

a first communication user (controlling station, col. 3, lines 20-22) is configured to:

autonomously transmit data on the bus system,

allocate data to a station address (allocate serial number to a bus subscriber, col. 2, lines 54-57), the data uniquely identifying (unique serial number for subscribers col. 2, lines 54-57) a further communication user (identifying a bus subscriber, col. 2, lines 34-37, 54-57), or

characterize the station address as not allocated (shows addresses which is not yet listed, col. 3, lines 57-61), the method comprising the following steps to be executed in one communication cycle:

transmitting a first data packet to each station address by the first communication user (sending by circular telegram a list of the addresses already reserved, col. 3, lines 20-29), the first data packet including data allocated to the respective station address (the telegram includes the addresses reserved for subscribers, col. 3, lines 20-29), the data uniquely identifying the respective further communication user (the addresses identifying the users, col. 3, lines 20-29, col. 4, lines 25-26);

transmitting a second data packet to the first communication user by at least one of the further communication users (bus subscriber writes a telegram claiming its provisional address into its send buffer, col. 3, lines 40-43), the second data packet including the station address (bus subscriber reveals its provisional address) and data uniquely identifying the at least one further communication user (address identifying the bus subscriber, col. 3, lines 40-43);

allocating the data uniquely identifying the at least one further communication user to the station address of the at least one further communication user, by the first communication user (requesting commencement of address location by the controlling station, col. 3, lines 35-39); and

transmitting a third data packet to all communication users different from the first communication user (transmitting a telegram to the bus subscriber, col. 3, lines 50-61), by the first communication user, the third data packet including information about which of the station

addresses are characterized as not allocated (the telegram indicates whether the provisional address claimed is already contained in the list, col. 3, lines 50-61), wherein such communication user which has already transmitted the second data packet uniquely identifying such communication user in a previous communication cycle and which will receive the first data packet in a subsequent communication cycle (the bus subscriber has already written a telegram claiming a provisional address and received a list of reserved addresses from the controlling station, col. 3, lines 40-43, col. 3, 20-29), the first data packet then having data not uniquely identifying such communication user (the telegram in which an address is claimed the same as its own address/same address for two or more bus subscribers, col. 3, lines 50-61),

automatically changes its station address to correspond to one of the station addresses characterized as not allocated, based on the third data packet (the procedure is repeated until an address found which is not yet listed, col. 3, lines 57-61).

Regarding claim 8, Kolblin discloses the method according to claim 7, wherein the communication cycles have a variable cycle time (delay time is random value, col. 3, lines 30-43).

Regarding claim 9, Kolblin discloses the method according to claim 7, further comprising:

storing device information about the at least one further communication user in a memory device assigned to the at least one further communication user (storing serial number of each bus subscriber in non-volatile memory, col. 2, lines 33-37);

accessing the stored device information via the bus system by the first communication user (controlling station requests the serial number, col. 4, lines 20-24); and

reading the stored device information by the first communication user (serial number is revealed by the controlling station, col. 4, lines 20-24).

Regarding claim 10, Kolblin discloses the method according to claim 9, further comprising automatically configuring the bus system by repeating the method steps (procedure is repeated until an address is found which is not yet listed, col. 3, lines 57-61).

Regarding claim 11, Kolblin discloses a communication user in a bus system having station addresses, comprising an allocation mechanism configured to allocate data uniquely (allocate unique serial number for subscribers col. 2, lines 54-57) identifying a further communication user to at least one station address of the bus system (identifying a bus subscriber, col. 2, lines 34-37, 54-57) and to characterize at least a further station address as not allocated (shows addresses which is not yet listed, col. 3, lines 57-61).

Regarding claim 12, Kolblin discloses a communication user in a bus system having station addresses, comprising:

a transmission mechanism for transmitting a second data packet to a first communication user (bus subscriber writes a telegram claiming its provisional address into its send buffer, col. 3, lines 40-43), the second data packet including data uniquely identifying the

communication user (bus subscriber reveals its provisional address identifying the the bus subscriber, col. 3, lines 40-43); and

an address mechanism for automatically changing a current station address of the communication user (the procedure is repeated until an address found which is not yet listed, col. 3, lines 57-61).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Mew whose telephone number is 571-272-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chi H Pham/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416
2/6/09

/K. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2416